

Message Text

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21

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DRAFTED BY AF/C:RRSTRAND:GJB

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PPT/F:FGRANDO (DRAFT)

----- 079084

R 080034Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS

XMT AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

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INFORM CONSULS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CG, CVIS

SUBJECT: ZAIRIAN VISA AND ENTRY RESTRICTIONS

1. ON JANUARY 16 GOVERNMENT OF ZAIRE INSTRUCTED ITS EMBASSIES THAT CLEARANCE FROM KINSHASA WOULD HENCEFORTH BE REQUIRED PRIOR TO ISSUANCE OF ALL VISAS. SUBSEQUENT MODIFICATION OF THIS DIRECTIVE EMPOWERED EMBASSIES TO ISSUE DIPLOMATIC VISAS WITHOUT REFERRAL TO KINSHASA BUT REQUIRED EMBASSIES TO NOTIFY FOREIGN MINISTRY OF SUCH ISSUANCE AT LEAST 48 HOURS BEFORE TRAVELLER'S ARRIVAL. SINCE PROMULGATION OF NEW ORDERS, ZAIRIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON HAS ISSUED VISAS WITHOUT DELAY TO HOLDERS OF DIPLOMATIC AND OFFICIAL PASSPORTS. APPLICATIONS FROM ALL OTHERS HAVE BEEN REFERRED TO KINSHASA. INITIAL EXPERIENCE SUGGESTS THAT DELAY OF AT LEAST TWO WEEKS MAY BE EXPECTED

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AWAITING KINSHASA REPLY. ZAIRE REQUIRES ALL TRAVELLERS TO

BE IN POSSESSION OF VALID VISA UPON ARRIVAL. AIRPORT
VISAS ARE NOT RPT NOT ISSUED.

2. ON JANUARY 16 ALSO THE GOVERNMENT OF ZAIRE INSTRUCTED
ITS EMBASSIES THAT ENTRY TO ZAIRE WOULD HENCEFORTH BE
PERMITTED ONLY AT KINSHASA, EXCEPT FOR CITIZENS OF
BORDERING COUNTRIES. AT DEPARTMENT'S REQUEST, ZAIRIAN

EMBASSY WASHINGTON ASKED FOREIGN MINISTRY WHETHER
EXCEPTION COULD BE MADE FOR FOREIGNERS RESIDENT IN
BORDERING COUNTRIES AND IN PARTICULAR FOR OUR
DIPLOMATS POSTED TO THOSE COUNTRIES. THE ZAIRIAN FOREIGN
MINISTRY REPLIED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO RPT NO
EXCEPTIONS. ON FEBRUARY 7, HOWEVER, EMBASSY BANGUI
REPORTED BEING INFORMED BY ZAIRIAN EMBASSY THERE THAT
HOLDERS OF VALID ZAIRIAN VISAS WERE BEING ALLOWED TO
ENTER ZAIRE FROM CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ON BASIS
EMBASSY OBSERVATION.

3. ZAIRE FOREIGN MINISTER HAS TOLD OUR AMBASSADOR HE
THINKS NEW VISA AND ENTRY RESTRICTIONS WILL BE ONLY
TEMPORARY. KISSINGER

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NNN

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